making efforts to contain such possibilities through sustained vigilance, inquiries and investigations, and operations against various secessionist and militant organisations in Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of the Country.

[English]

Mining of Ilmenite

3907. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of ilmenite obtained from the mineral sand mines from the coastal area of Kollam during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to ask the mining companies to spend percentage of turnover for the welfare of this area;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Total quantity of ilmenite obtained from the coastal area of Kollam during the last three years is as under :

1993-94	:	1,52,232 MT
1994-95	:	1,54,546 MT
1995-96	:	1,25,152 MT

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Development of the area is the responsibility of the local Government. However, the Indian Rare Earths Limited has been spending money on the welfare of the area from time to time, as a goodwill gesture.

Review of Vigilance Sections

3908. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any review of the functioning and powers of the Vigilance Sections attached to ministries and Departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c). The primary responsibility for the maintenance of purity, integrity and efficiency in his organisation vests in the Secretary of the Ministry or the Head of the Department/ Organisation. The Chief Vigilance Officers and the Vigilance set-up in these organisations assist the head of the organisations in all matters pertaining to vigilance and provide a link between their Ministries/Departments/ Organisations and Central Vigilance Commission. In order to provide clean and corruption free administration, the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions have been following a three pronged strategy on vigilance and anti-corruption measures through an Annual Action Plan for preventive vigilance, surveillance and detection and deterrent punitive action. Through this Action Plan and Ministries/Departments through their respective vigilance set-up are responsible for coordinating, guiding and implementing the various aspects of the Action Plan and vigilance activities in their Organisation. The progress of the action taken on the various items of vigilance work is reviewed quarterly.

Printing of Question Papers

3909. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the practice for printing of question papers for various competitive examinations conducted by SSC is different from the one followed by UPSC;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether SSC had been engaging private agencies for printing of question papers for various examinations;

(d) if so, whether the role of these agencies with regard to leakage of question papers for examinations for recruitment of Inspectors of Customs, Central Excise etc. and recruitment of Clerks, 1996 has been investigated;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Government propose to examine the viability of printing question papers through Government security press in order to prevent leakage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b). Since the Staff Selection Commission and the U.P.S.C are independent organisations, they have evolved their own procedures for printing of question papers keeping in view the need to ensure secrecy in printing the question papers.

(c) to (f). Yes Sir. However, the Commission ensure adequate safeguards at the stage of printing and sealing. There have been no cases of leakage of question papers at this stage and, therefore, there is no proposal to modify the existing system at present.